Scarcity of drinking water in Delhi

†*313. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that people are facing difficulties due to shortage of drinking water in the Capital and are compelled to consume contaminated water;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to take steps to provide clean drinking water in the Capital and other metro cities; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b)The Delhi Jal Board has reported that against the total water requirement of 800 M.G.D. (Million Gallons per day) for Delhi, an average 655 M.G.D. of water is being supplied leaving a shortfall of about 145 M.G.D.The areas which are at the tail end of the distribution system and are located at higher elevation get comparatively less water supply which is being supplemented through water tankers. It has also been stated by Delhi Jal Board that quality of water supplied by it conforms to the laid down standards.

(c) and (d) Water supply is a State subject. It is the responsibility of the State Governments/Local Bodies etc., to plan and execute water supply schemes in the Capital and Metro Cities. However, all possible assistance in technical, policy and institutional loans/external funding matters is provided by Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation—a technical wing of this Ministry.

Local purchase of medicines

*314. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH'SURYA': Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether CGHS dispensaries functioning in VIP areas of New Delhi have special powers regarding issue/local purchase of medicines as compared to those in other areas; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.